Pacific School of Religion,
1798 Scenic Ave.,
Berkeley, Calif.
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The Pacific

88th Year | MARCH, 1938 | 51 | No. 3

SPRING ASSOCIATIONS

Pastors and churches of northern California may look forward with keen anticipation to the coming of two national leaders for the spring meetings of the Associations and for certain other conferences of workers.

Mrs. Sarah Medlicott of New York is visiting California for the first time. She was formerly a member of the Prudential Committee of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, and then was added to the secretarial staff of that Board. A year ago she was drafted as Associate Secretary of the Missions Council in charge of women's work and heading up the speakers' bureau.

Rev. Boynton Merrill, pastor of the great First Congregational Church of Newton Centre, Massachusetts, is visiting the coast under the auspices of the Commission on Evangelism and Devotional Life. Dr. Merrill is being released by his church at the request of the Commission, that he may hold conferences with ministers on worship. It will be remembered that Dr. Merrill was chaplain of the General Council at Oberlin and that the services of worship which he conducted were the high points of the Council. The suggestion is being made to program committees that for at least one session the women will meet by themselves with Mrs. Medlicott, and the ministers and laymen with Dr. Merrill to discuss worship.

ZEPHYR POINT PLANS BEING FORMED

Rev. Fred R. Morrow has been elected the director of the Pilgrim Fellowship Conference which will be held at Zephyr Point, Lake Tahoe, July 30 to August 6. Among members of the faculty thus far enlisted are: Rev. Clarence Reidenbach of First Church, Oakland, who will be the chaplain; Dr. E. V. Tenney, Professor of Philosophy and Psychology at Fresno State College, who comes for the third young people's conference because of his popularity and the demand of the young people; Rev. Godfrey Matthews of Hayward, Lawton Harris of the East Bay Church Federation, and Art Casaday who some years ago was a speaker at the young people's Midwinter Conference.

LET ME KEEP LENT

Let me keep Lent,
Let me not kneel and pray,
Forego some trifle every day
Fast—and take sacrament—
And then,
Lend tongue to slander, hold ancient grudge, deny
The very Lord whom I would glorify.

Let me keep Lent,
Let my heart grow in grace
Let Thy light shine till my illumined face
Will be a testament
Read by all men,
That hate is buried, self-crucified, new-born
The spirit that shall rise on Easter Morn.
Let me keep Lent.

—Author Unknown

Rev. George W. Shepherd is a missionary of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions who has been taking an active part in rural reconstruction in China. During the past two years he has been Honorary Adviser to the Generalissimo and Madame Chiang Kai-shek on matters concerning the New Life Movement and is making a brief visit to America in order to confer with mission executives and others interested in the work of the New Life Movement. Because of his close association with the personalities involved in the present Sino-Japanese conflict Mr. Shepherd has an interesting story to tell of the mighty forces at present clashing over the control of China.

During his 20 years in China George Shepherd has seen a great deal of dramatic living, the major part of it being in rural communities. He rendered much of his service in areas threatened by communist invasions and time after time has been forced to leave his work and beat a hasty and hazardous retreat before advancing Red forces. In 1933 he made such an escape stumbling over muddy mountain trails in a drenching rain for two days and nights, the only light coming from bamboo torches which he and his Chinese pastor friend carried. In the high wooded mountains, wherever they found an isolated Chinese farmer, shelter was given them. At one point they escaped communist troops by diving into the water of the river and swimming to the other side.

It is not strange that when the remarkable New Life Movement was started by the Madame and the Generalissimo, they should remember the fine work of George Shepherd, his rural background, his Christian point of view, and feel that he was the man that they would like to have as an adviser to the New Life Movement. Thus it came about that the American Board has lent Mr. Shepherd for the past two years to the peculiar service in behalf of the Chinese people.

He will spend the days from March 18 to the 22 in northern California, and on Wednesday, the 23, hops off by Clipper plane for Hongkong.

BAY ANNUAL

Congregationalists of the Bay area will have the opportunity to hear and honor George W. Shepherd of China on Tuesday evening, March 22, at the Grace United Church, 21st and Capp Streets, San Francisco.

The officers of the Bay Association are taking advantage of Mr. Shepherd's visit and are arranging for the annual meeting of the Association at that time. Regular business session, including the election of officers, will be held at 5 p. m. At 6:30 dinner will be served, which will be followed by the address by Mr. Shepherd. Price of the dinner will be 50c per plate.

Attendance will be limited to 300 and quotas of tickets have been assigned to the churches. No reservations will be accepted. All who attend will purchase tickets through their own churches.

Mr. E. B. Mead is Moderator and Rev. Godfrey Matthews is Registrar.

To reach the church take car 11, 12, 14, or 18 from the ferry or on Mission Street to 21st and walk one block to the left.

Shepherd Schedule

The following dates for the appearance of Rev. George W. Shepherd in northern California have been made:

Friday, March 18—Noon and afternoon, Sacramento;
6:30 p. m., dinner at Stockton (neighboring churches invited).
Sunday, March 20—11:00 a. m., First Congregational Church, Berkeley;
3:30 p. m., union religious service of Chinese churches at Chinese Presbyterian Church, 925 Stockton St., San Francisco.
7:30 p. m., Congregational-Methodist Temple, Post and Mason Sts., San Francisco.
Monday, March 21—2:30 p. m., Federation of Women's Clubs, San Francisco.
6:30 p. m., dinner at First Congregational Church, San Jose (neighboring churches invited).
Tuesday, March 22—6:30 p. m., annual dinner of Bay Association of Congregational Churches at Grace United Church, 21st and Capp Sts., San Francisco.

ATTENDANCE CONTEST

The attendance contest between Alameda, Fresno, and Stockton, according to recent reports, has resulted in a very large increase in attendance, running as high as 150 per cent. One of the pastors writes: "We feel the campaign is doing our church an immense amount of good."

YOUR CONFERENCE HELPS YOUR CHURCH

Church after church is helped in getting a new minister
Church after church is helped in its Every Member Canvass.
Church after church is helped in its young people's work.
Church after church is helped by direct gifts of money.
Church after church is helped in religious and missionary education.

It costs several hundred dollars more each year to do this than the Conference share in the benevolences.

During the past three years individual friends have paid the deficit by their gifts. Their help is needed, NOW! Fiscal year closes March 31.

Send check to W. Wallace Furze, Treasurer, 1164 Phelan Building, San Francisco, marking it "End-of-the-year-fund." THANK YOU!

YEAR BOOK 1937 FIGURES

Year Book report blanks from the churches have come in with one or two exceptions, and have been tabulated and are ready to go to the General Council office.

A gain of 460 members has been made in the Conference during the past year but a part of this increase has been offset by a larger number of absent members (237). The total membership is now 19,877 and gives promise that 1938 will take us over the 20,000 mark for the first time. Twenty-nine churches received less than 10 members each. Twenty-four welcomed from 10 to 24 each. Fourteen took in between 25 and 49 each. Five added not less than 50 and not more than 99. One church is in the 100 and over class. Twenty received no members and seven were inactive or made no report.

Sunday school enrollment continues to decline and is at the low point of 11,531, but young people's organizations show a gain of about 450. Home expenses of the churches have taken a big jump, from $275,036 to $326,186, a fact which explains the reduction of debts from $154,498 to $110,175. Property values remain about the same, at $2,972,778. Invested funds show a great increase, from $91,585 to $157,827, a fact that is accounted for by the receipt of legacies amounting to $15,391, by certain property adjustments, and by failure to report in previous years.

STILL BETTER

The February issue of The Pacific brought to its readers the preliminary figures of benevolence giving of 1937 in comparison with 1936. It is now possible to come much nearer accuracy with reports of gifts sent directly to the National Boards and those that go through the treasury of the German Conference. The grand total applicable to the regular budgets of state, national, and foreign work is about $37,100 for 1937 as against $34,721 in 1936, a gain of $2,379, or 6.85 per cent. It will be remembered that our goal for 1937 was $5,000 increase over the average of 1934 and 1935. We did not reach that goal but we did make an increase of $2,900.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 22—Annual meeting of the Bay Association of Congregational Churches at Grace United Church, San Francisco.
April 17—Easter Sunday.
June 15-22—General Council of Congregational Churches, Beloit, Wis.
June 21-July 1—Institute of International Relations, Mills College, Oakland, California.
July 17-22—M. E. M. Conference, Asilomar.
July 30-August 6 — Pilgrim Fellowship Summer Conference, Zephyr Point, Lake Tahoe.
August 6-13—Pilgrim Fellowship Summer Conference, Lokoya.
October 11-12-13 — Annual meeting, Northern California Congregational Conference, San Mateo.

Pacific School of Religion

The Pacific

Established 1851

Entered as Second-Class Matter at the San Francisco Post Office

Subscriptions, 25 cents in Advance

Published monthly (except July and August) by the Northern California Congregational Conference, 1164 Phelan Building, 760 Market Street, San Francisco

Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized September 11, 1932

Address all communications and checks to THE PACIFIC, 1164 Phelan Building.

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Northern California
1164 Phelan Building, San Francisco

PILOT OF MY SOUL

Abide with me; swift flows life's onward stream,
'Twixt banks where fall the golden sunlight beams;
When through the waters still my bark shall glide,
O, Pilot of my soul, with me abide.

Abide with me when shallow, rocky shoal,
With threatening danger shall alarm my soul;
Be thine the hand and thine the eye to guide:
O, Pilot of my soul, with me abide.

Abide with me when thickly overhead,
Shall storm clouds gather and their fury spread;
When darkness shall Thy friendly presence hide:
O, Pilot of my soul, with me abide.

Abide with me when broadening stream shall flow
Into eternal, heavenly sunset glow,
Serene and calm I'll take the ebbing tide
If Thou my Pilot shall with me abide.

—Rev. Tom Watt

JUST A START

It is still too early to make any forecast for the year but the first report of benevolence receipts covering the period from January 11 to the end of February is not so good. It is due in part to the fact that a number of churches did not make remittance until after the first of March. Let it be the purpose of every treasurer and pastor to see that March receipts are sent in promptly to help us close the fiscal year without deficit.

Church	Jan. 11 to Feb. 28, '38	Jan. 11 to Feb. 28, '37
Angels Camp	$.....	$ 125.00
Auburn	60.00	60.00
Berkeley, First	866.66	1,137.38
Kensington	.....	10.00
Cloverdale	6.30	4.65
Eureka	42.64	34.32
Fresno, First	.....	101.82
Pilgrim	50.00	10.00
Lodi, First	180.00	.....
Loomis	.....	12.00
Martinez	21.65	34.61
Murphy	60.00	50.00
Oakland, First	484.16	883.32
Japanese	5.00	.....
Plymouth	68.83	99.81
Oroville	20.00	20.00
Pacific Grove	.....	22.50
Palo Alto	150.00	150.00
Paradise	.....	17.82
Petaluma	66.43	45.80
Pittsburg	11.91	.....
Ripon	11.95	5.99
Sacramento	37.83	47.99
San Carlos	15.77	10.00
San Francisco,		
Bethany Msn. Park	.....	3.50
First	135.16	143.89
Richmond	1.00	.....
San Jose	95.00	100.00
San Leandro	.....	21.95
San Rafael	.....	21.20
Santa Rosa	9.23	11.05
Sebastopol	18.85	26.08
Sonoma	12.50	.....
Stockton	25.10	20.10
Tulare	.....	75.00
Weaverville	.....	24.01
Reno, Nevada	27.37	31.27
Miscellaneous	2.00	40.00
	$2,488.20	$3,412.86

Educational Work in the South

(This account of some of our Congregational educational work in the South was written by Mrs. A. V. Dunn, president of the Federation of Congregational Women, who visited several schools on her return from the Midwinter Meetings in Evanston).

The General Education Board, a subsidiary of the Rockefeller Foundation, has given higher place to the Congregational work in the South than to any other agency working there. It is of greatest interest to visit some of this work and learn what Christian vision has meant and is still meaning to the most underprivileged folk in our country. However, the visitor must keep history in mind, and ever realize that people everywhere are the products of their environment.

In certain groups, barriers are gradually breaking down and the states are doing more and more for the education of the Negro and the poor white. In others the Negro and the poor white are still pitted against each other, to the detriment of both and the intensification of race prejudice.

As the local communities have become willing to assume responsibility for Negro education, some of our schools have closed. The ones remaining are located in strategic centers. They are not only commanding increased respect but they are gradually becoming an integral part of their communities. The emphasis has been changed from quantity to quality, and they are broadening the scope of their work that it may better serve to raise the Negro to higher levels, and help him to adjust himself to conditions in a modern world. All recognize the fundamental necessity of developing within the Negro race pride that will enable him to shake off the psychology of hopelessness and futility that has come from generations of repression. Only in this way can leadership be developed.

LeMoyne College at Memphis, Tougaloo College at Jackson, and Dillard University at New Orleans, are among those colleges that fill one with pride. All have received money from the educational foundations. Dillard University in particular has had large sums for the development of music, art, and drama. It is intended that this college shall become a center for the culture of the Negro race. It will also be the location for the next medical college for Negroes when such time comes that another one seems necessary.

These colleges have bi-racial faculties, a policy of the Home Board. This offers the student a fellowship not received in the state supported schools. The state supported schools are often inferior and are recognized only in the South. Visitors attending chapel services will hear no special program for their benefit. The students are not made to feel that they are on exhibition.

Many of the young people have parents and grandparents who attended these same schools, while others come from the lowliest cotton picking families. In the latter group the student is often the only one of his family who is able or who has the desire to rise above his environment. Tragic stories are heard of splendid young people who cannot continue their college course because their preliminary training was inferior, or because they do not have sufficient funds. Confronted with such need, the teachers give until it more than hurts. Money is badly needed for scholarships for worthy students who have much to give their race. It is interesting to note that a large percentage of graduates choose to work for the betterment of their own people despite the humiliating restrictions with which they are constantly faced in the South.

Hospital facilities are pathetically lacking. Flint Goodrich, an eighty bed hospital at New Orleans, is one of the few good ones for Negroes. It is an interesting example of inter-racial cooperation. There is an active Negro staff, and a consultant staff composed of men who are on the faculties of Tulane and Louisiana State Universities. This affords the Negro physician of New Orleans a training he would otherwise have to go North to receive. Well conducted clinics serve the very needy, ten cents being the fee for all but the dental, which is twenty-five cents. Group hospital insurance costing the individual $3.65 a year is being subsidized by the Rosenwald Fund.

Kamp Knighton, in the beautiful Evangeline country in Louisiana, rounds out the picture of Negro education in the south. It is an educational project which originated with the Negroes themselves and is managed by them. Money advanced by the Church Extension Society is being paid back promptly in regular installments. Mr. Phillips of Kamp Knighton said, "I do this work hoping that I may help these people to see that their case is not hopeless, even though their skins are black."

The Delta Cooperative Farm at Rochdale, Mississippi, is attracting the interest of those interested in economic problems and their solution. There is no richer land in the world than in this section of the Mississippi delta, and it is said to be the scene of the nation's greatest poverty. This Farm, which is an inter-racial experiment, had its birth in the tragedy of southern agricultural labor. It was first proposed by a group of southern men who enlisted Sherwood Eddy, and it was purchased through the generosity of those interested throughout the country. It is held by a board of five trustees, one of whom is John Rust, co-inventor of the cotton picking machine. Sam Franklin is the director. There have been many discouragements, but faith in the future was recently expressed by the purchase of an additional two thousand acres, making over four thousand acres in all. The need is so great that even the most skeptical hope that it will succeed.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

The fourth annual Institute of International Relations will be held at Mills College, June 21 to July 1. Among the speakers who have been announced will be Dr. T. Z. Koo of China, who took such a prominent and valued part in the Oxford and Edinburgh Conferences; Dr. J. Anton de Haas, professor of international relations at Harvard; Dr. Samuel Guy Inman of the Committee on Cooperation in Latin America; Miss Muriel Lester of London; and Dr. James Muilenburg of the Pacific School of Religion.

ASSOCIATION SCHEDULE

The tentative dates suggested for the Spring Meeting of the Associations are as follows: Tuesday, April 27, Redwood Empire at Cloverdale; Thursday, April 28, Upper Bay at Benicia (?); Friday, April 29, Sacramento Valley at Auburn (?); Monday, May 2, San Joaquin at Porterville; Tuesday, May 3, Santa Clara at Campbell; Wednesday, May 4, Central at Ripon.

SOCIAL ACTION

Among the new members of the Santa Rosa Church are members of three labor unions,—the butchers', teamsters', and stationery engineers', —also from the Farm Bureau and from the W. P. A. During the absence of the pastor, Rev. Wilfred Withington, the Social Action Committee of the church conducted Sunday evening meetings, drawing a splendid attendance. The church has tried to revise its constitution in harmony with apostolic emphasis and Pilgrim traditions by making devotion to Jesus and a social covenant the only essentials of membership. "We are willing to do the will of God as Jesus did by trying to remove all obstacles to the most abundant life for all." Over twenty young people have thoroughly memorized the covenant which had previously had unanimous approval at the annual meeting, and is being used as a basis for all the church's organizations and activities.

The Fresno First Church has a most alert and sane Social Action Committee, and a careful study is being made of economic conditions within the city, meeting every month and each person working on a particular assignment on which he reports. A Social Action literature table is maintained in the church vestibule. The March meeting of the women's club will be devoted to a panel discussion prepared by the committee. The committee has assumed responsibility for keeping the members of the church informed on the history, growth, and activities of the National Council for Social Action. A carefully prepared outline which is used by members of the committee in investigating labor conditions, gives guidance in avoiding obstacles and direction for fruitful inquiry.

The Social Service Committee of the San Jose Church has formed a study group representing business, agriculture, education, some of the professions, and students. Over a period of eight weeks an attempt will be made to study and evaluate the proposed economic plebiscite questions of the Council for Social Action. A series of panel discussions will be held later based on the findings.

A case of applied social action is the recent vice exposure at Pittsburg in which the Contra Costa Ministerial Association has taken a positive stand. Rev. Elmer W. Benedict invited the city chief of police and one of the deputy sheriffs to state their case. Ministers listened in and sent communications to the city and county law enforcement offices, urging continued action for a clean county.

College young people of Pioneer Church, Sacramento, have been making personal contacts with migrant laborers. Without the spirit of "slumming" but with a desire to help, jungle huts, trailer camps, Resettlement Administration camps, employment agencies, state and county welfare bureaus, and Federal Shelter and Recreation Center were visited. Preliminary findings were adopted which will appear in later issues of The Pacific.

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES ON THE JOB

OAKLAND, FIRST. From the annual report of the Board of Trustees comes the following: "The board recognizes that the temporal affairs of the church are its especial responsibility and that the spiritual affairs are vested in other bodies of the organization . . . We have kept within the budget as adopted at the last annual meeting . . . The moneys contributed have been so administered as to best promote the spiritual life of the church, extend the fellowship of its members, and through its benevolences take its full share in the larger field of work in our denomination . . . Everywhere throughout the church a splendid spirit of loyalty prevails." The junior choir has entered the Eisteddfod, a musical contest sponsored by the Welsh Presbyterian Church, and took a prize in the juvenile division. Several of the individual members were successful in piano and vocal contests.

SAN CARLOS. The 10th anniversary of the organization of the church was celebrated with a community dinner on February 18. The accommodations of the church were not sufficient for the crowd that attended. Girl Scouts furnished a part of the program. Greetings were brought by Rev. Reed B. Cherington who organized the church and was its first pastor. Superintendent Harley H. Gill was the speaker of the evening. Rev. Alden A. Read is pastor.

PITTSBURG. In spite of the hurricane, a hundred women attended the annual daffodil tea. Some of the brick veneer was blown off the building. The Pilgrim Fellowship has published "The Argus," sparkling with church news, for the purpose of raising money to send delegates to Lokoya. The Adult Education Committee has planned a nine weeks' study course for Sunday evenings. During Lent the pastor, Rev. E. W. Benedict, will preach on "Lifegiving Convictions."

SANTA CRUZ. A union service of Jews and Christians was held on a recent Sunday morning with Howard H. Desky, attorney and active in Jewish circles, speaking on "The Right to Differ." The service was conducted by the pastor, Rev. H. S. Mahood. More than 400 people were in attendance. Boy Scouts attended the service of the church in a body on the second Sunday in February.

SAN FRANCISCO, CALVARY. Dr. F. W. MacCallum, for 47 years missionary in the Near East, was guest preacher on February 6 and was welcomed by a capacity audience. He spoke in the Armenian language. Three new families have been added to the church. Rev. H. K. Khachadourian is pastor.

LOOMIS. Just after rebuilding and redecorating the church which was damaged by fire, and the week following the coming of Rev. E. P. Shier as pastor, the hurricane lifted a large portion of the roof off the building causing considerable damage, which the people are heroically undertaking to repair.

RENO, NEVADA. The church has had one of its best years. One strong factor in the work is the coming of Dr. Meryl W. Deming as part-time director of religious education. Rev. William M. Case is the pastor.

PORTERVILLE. Average attendance Sunday mornings for January and February was 185. Ping pong tables have been presented to the church and other game equipment. Thirty-six members of the girls' and boys' glee clubs of the high school furnished music one Sunday morning. Twenty new members have been welcomed into the Ladies' Aid. Lenten sermon series cards were distributed to every home in Porterville announcing sermons by Rev. John Gregg, the pastor, on the following subjects: "Why Beliefs Matter," "The Inevitable Book," "The Finality of Jesus," "The Certainty of God," "The Destiny of Humanity," "The Validity of Prayer," "The Mystery of Suffering," and "Life Beyond Life."

OAKLAND, PLYMOUTH. Weekly pot-luck suppers are held on Thursday nights during Lent, the program for each one being planned by a different department of the church. At the first council meeting of the new year, 17 members were present and three others had sent written reports. Rev. T. T. Giffen, the pastor, is preaching on Problems of Personal Conduct in the Light of Jesus' Way,—His Way with Men of Old Time, with Satan, with the Pharisees, with Friends, and with His Family.

SAN FRANCISCO, CONGREGATIONAL - METHODIST TEMPLE. Thirty-one new members were received into fellowship in two Sundays in February. The pastors of the church, Rev. Jason Noble Pierce and Rev. Edgar A. Lowther, are able to help other churches since it is unnecessary for both to be in the pulpit at their own church at the same hour. Two morning services and one evening service, besides Sunday school and young people's meetings, are held each Sunday.

FRESNO PILGRIM. A legacy of a valued member will be used for a memorial window, completing the set of four in the auditorium. Sunday morning worship for the year 1937 averaged 237. The pastor, Rev. M. G. Papazian, covers a parish which extends 50 miles from north to south. He preached 48 sermons, delivered 45 addresses, and made 362 calls during the year.

SEBASTOPOL. The young people entertained the Redwood Empire Pilgrim Fellowship, afternoon and evening, on a recent Sunday. Clothing has been purchased by the young people for children of flood sufferers. This same group will be responsible for a church fellowship supper, program and all. Rev. George Atkinson is the pastor.

FAIRFAX. Rev. Charles L. Mears, who found it necessary to spend twelve days in a San Francisco hospital, is greatly improved and is at home and will soon be carrying his full responsibilities. Once a month he preaches at San Quentin prison and holds interviews with men who desire friendly advice.

OROVILLE. Through the means of a dinner, to which the participants contributed $5.00 each, the entire deficit of the church was lifted. Rabbi Coffee of San Francisco was the speaker. Rev. Henry Stauffer is supplying the church very acceptably and will continue to do so until after Easter.

NILES. Sunday morning congregations have shown fine improvement. The church school is active and well manned, including two splendid men on the staff and an efficient superintendent. The young people's fellowship which gathers around the fireplace at the home of the pastor, Rev. R. C. Day, each Sunday night, is going strong. Two fine people were received into fellowship at the last communion service. A Monday night class every second week in Modern Bible Appreciation, has gathered an interested group. Rev. Godfrey Matthews of Hayward has assisted in this class, and also with the young people's fellowship.

REDWOOD CITY. A successful evening for fathers and sons was held on February 25, headed by Rev. Charles E. Ward, the pastor. A study group has been launched by Mrs. C. L. Huyck, president. Mrs. C. H. Stevens, whose husband was for many years pastor, made 225 calls during 1937 in behalf of the church. Mr. C. W. Batdorf spoke on educational methods in China at a monthly church dinner. A study club has been organized, meeting once a month under the leadership of the pastor.

OAKLAND, FRUITVALE. A series of three lectures, given for the purpose of general interest and education and for the benefit of the treasury, have been announced. March 9, Supt. Harley H. Gill will speak on "The European Situation Through the Eyes of England"; April 8, Pres. H. F. Swartz on "Capital and Labor in Germany"; and April 28, Rev. Jason Noble Pierce on "Stories I Like to Tell About Great People." Rev. J. B. Orr is pastor.

SAN JOSE. Carefully planned midweek services are being held during Lent, in which the "Fellowship of Prayer" is used for study and meditation. Laymen are speaking from their own experiences on religious themes. The church attendance will be fostered by the Committee on Evangelism. The Sunday morning subjects of the pastor, Rev. Benjamin Gould, will be "Steadfast Truths in a Changing World."

BERKELEY CHINESE. A mass meeting of Chinese people of Berkeley has been held to discuss plans for an advance program of the church, to include a new building. Five people have declared their intention of uniting with the church at Easter. Mr. Dan Yee serves as pastor.

CALAVERAS COUNTY. In spite of storm and a good deal of illness, services have been maintained. The Murphys Church has assumed a larger part of the pastor's salary. Rev. John G. Dickey is launching a pastor's class with a promise of some young people for church membership.

SAN FRANCISCO, OCEAN VIEW. Rev. Stewart E. Locke, former pastor, was welcomed back for a Sunday morning service after an illness of two years. The church is being supplied by Rev. E. W. Houlding.

BERKELEY, FIRST. A determined effort is being made during the Lenten season to lift the troublesome indebtedness of the church amounting to $31,000.

HAYWARD. The need of additional room for Sunday school and young people's work has long been recognized. Plans have been drawn and financing is being arranged for an addition to the building, which will give four attractive rooms. At a communion service, Rev. Godfrey Matthews, the pastor, and his wife presented to the church two candlesticks, two vases, and a cross, which were in the old Mission Park Church of San Francisco. An altar cloth was presented by Miss Edna Jensen and there was an anonymous gift of a solid silver baptismal font.

RIPON. A service of recognition was held on February 25, which was followed by a reception to the new pastor, Rev. Robert A. Bentley, and his wife. Participating in the program were Rev. E. L. Spuller, former pastor; Mr. C. Virgil Carlson of Salida, Rev. Lawrence A. Wilson of Sacramento, Supt. Harley H. Gill, Rev. John G. Dickey of Angels Camp, Rev. A. R. Boone of Lodi, Rev. Noel J. Breed of Stockton, Rev. Nils Heiner of the Swedish Mission Chnurch, and Mr. Stewart Thompson representing the laity.

LODI, FIRST. Attractive announcements of Lenten services have been distributed by Rev. A. R. Boone, the pastor, in which he discusses questions asked by Jesus, the topics being: "The Eternal Quest," "The Inner Quest," "The Christ Quest," "The Troubled Quest," "The Costly Quest," "The Lost Quest," and "The Hopeful Quest."

KENWOOD. Following a pot-luck supper, the annual meeting of the church was held on January 10. Such a dinner is planned for each month. Lincoln's Birthday was observed at the February meeting. Rev. F. E. Boren was in charge of the program.

SONOMA. A group of high school boys is meeting on Sunday evenings as a discussion group. The young people's department of the church, which has not been up to par for the past year or two, is showing decided improvement. Rev. E. W. Perry is pastor.

SAN FRANCISCO, GRACE UNITED. The Mission Fellowship of Youth presented a three-act mystery comedy at the Congregational Methodist Temple. The church is looking forward to entertaining the Bay Association. Rev. D. W. Throckmorton is pastor.

SARATOGA. Seven new members were received into the church at the February communion, three of them on confession of faith. Rev. Burton M. Palmer is pastor.

OAKLAND, PILGRIM. The new roof is not only installed but paid for. Plans are on foot for cleaning and redecorating the church interior. Rev. Harvey V. Miller is pastor.

PACIFIC SCHOOL of RELIGION
PREPARES for the RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS
BERKELEY CALIFORNIA

WOMEN'S FEDERATION NEWS

Edited by Mrs. Wm. T. Sadler

The Executive Meeting of the Federation is held the third Thursday of each month at 10:15 a. m., in the First Congregational Church, Oakland, unless otherwise stated.

EVANSTON MIDWINTER MEETING REPORTS

At our February Federation meeting we were fortunate in having three speakers who had been at the recent Midwinter Meetings in Evanston, Ill.

Our Federation president, Mrs. A. V. Dunn, told most interestingly of her trip. An account from her own pen will be found elsewhere in The Pacific.

Mrs. C. A. Kofoid, our Foreign Field Secretary, attended the Evanston meeting with her husband who is a member of the Prudential Committee of the American Board and on the Japan Committee. She brought us word of the attitude of Christians and the outlook for the church in Japan and China. Amid the darkness of these troubled times there are three encouraging factors: (1) Great local love for our missionaries and loyalty to the Christian way of life. (2) There is a real church in Japan and China and it will survive. (3) Our trust is in the great providence of God. Mrs. Kofoid told us of Dr. George W. Shepherd, American Board missionary to China, selected by Generalissimo and Madame Chiang Kai-Shek as adviser to their New Life Movement, and now on a mission from them to America and England. He will be in the Bay area for a few days before he sails for China on March 23. All who can possibly do so should plan to hear him.

Our churches need real acquaintance with our missionaries. The church in Bridgeport, Conn. achieved this through entertaining Ray Phillips and his family for a week so that all groups might have personal contacts with them and hear of their work in Africa. Why cannot northern California do likewise? Invite Supt. Gill to arrange for a missionary or a whole missionary family to come to your church as your guests for a week.

SOCIAL RELATIONS

"Has your church a social problem and what are you doing about it? Let me know," requests Mrs. Elmer W. Benedict, our Social Relations Secretary. There is a national revamping of the Social Action program, policy, and personnel, partly due to a $20,000 cut in their budget. One of the concrete plans concerning our migrant problem is that groups of young people will go out next summer with their chaperons for 10 days in migrant camps, after four days of training. One team has already been arranged, under Rev. Victor Morgan of Rio Vista. The camp people are approachable by investigators and are improvable. Subsistence acres seems to be the solution and there is an offer from one who has inherited some acreage for use of the land for experiment. The recent heavy rains have flooded many migrant camps in the San Joaquin Valley, causing much damage and suffering.

Our Angels Camp church library is the only free library in Calaveras County and it needs more books, especially fiction and children's books. Mrs. L. M. Drury, Central Associational president, received a number of books from Berkeley, at our annual meeting, but she will be glad to receive more. They may be brought to any Federation meeting.

Supt. Harley H. Gill, who attended the Evanston meeting of the state superintendents, gave a concise and practical talk concerning plans for this year's work of the Conference and Federation, which are very close together—both existing to make every part of the church strong. Of the Federation Thank Offering, 78 per cent will go to the Conference for our two Home projects (Trinity County and Children's Project, S. F.) and 22 per cent will go to the American Board for Dr. Leonard Wilbur in Taiku, China. Northern California's benevolence record during the depression has been better than the national average, and the last two years show a total gain of $2,581. But we must climb steadily to achieve our plan of advance. The Conference World Service Committee has a nine-point program for 1938:

1. Publicity for Dr. George W. Shepherd during his brief stay here, March 18-22. He is one of our really great statesmen and is here on a great mission. Talk much about his coming that there may be a large attendance at the Bay Association meeting on March 22.

2. Our Association meetings this spring, with Mrs. W. H. Medlicott and Dr. Boynton Merrill as speakers.

3. Laymen's weekend retreats in the fall.

4. Invitational visits of missionaries to individual churches.

5. Strengthening of the work of the World Service Committee in the local church. A pamphlet of suggestions may be obtained from the Conference office.

6. Fewer pieces but better literature. We are definitely asking that all literature be ordered through the Conference office and not directly from the East, so that records may be kept.

7. The Thank Offering continued. This affords direct interest in projects and has accomplished much.

8. World Service stories for Sunday schools continued. Those prepared by Mrs. L. M. Drury were pronounced by Mr. J. L. Lobingier to be the finest job done in any Conference.

9. Our Young People's projects—Plymouth House student work under Fred R. Morrow and Calaveras County work centering in Angels Camp.

What the Federation can do to help: (1) When speakers come to your church **you** can do more to get crowds than we can. We try to send headliners and you will not be disappointed in them. (2) See that there is a World Service committee in your church and that it functions. Put your strongest workers on it. (3) See that World Service Sunday school material is used and not lost. Use plays and pageants, and, if you have created one, send a copy to the Conference office. Participation does much for young people. (4) Ask your pastor to preach missionary sermons. Ask him if the goal for missionary giving has been set. Only 33 out of 90 churches have a goal. (5) Get out your Thank Offering boxes now and begin to use them. (6) Have **good** agents for The Pacific and Missionary Herald.

The Spring Meeting of the Federation will be held in Stockton, First Church, on April 21st.

NEWS FROM THE WILBURS

Word from Dr. Leonard Wilbur, dated January 17, says: "We are all well and are getting along surprisingly well . . . We wish that all of our neighbors might be as much at peace as we, and that none of the local institutions had suffered any more than the hospital, which is running and in fact quite busy." He and his family have remained in Taiku through all its vicissitudes.

In a personal letter, dated January 10, Dr. Alma Cooke writes: "Your statements of how America is feeling in regard to the situation here is very encouraging to us. We on the scene have to remind ourselves every moment that we are Christians in order to prevent our natural feelings of outrage at the injustice being perpetrated here, from controlling our actions. We are trying to show our Chinese friends that the Christian way of love is the way out of this horror of blackness, but it never has been easy for the natural man to 'Love his enemies as himself.' But I think that our Christian leaders (Chinese) are learning to do just that and it is a great wonder and a comfort to us to watch them grow into a deeper, richer spiritual life through these experiences . . . Both Lintsing and Tehchow districts were again flooded widely this fall, and in addition to the ravages of war the people have had starvation from lack of food supplies staring them in the face. Do you wonder that bandits have arisen everywhere—the people are desperate . . . Please remember me to any friends who ask for me. We are happy to know that they are praying for us, and that they are rolling bandages and doing other relief work for China. China's Christians do need your prayers as never before that they may be strengthened and sustained as they pass through their baptism of fire." Dr. Cooke has returned to Tehchow, and with her Miss Lyons and Miss Dizney.

IT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Mrs. T. T. Giffen, our new Home Field Secretary, gave us vivid pictures of two southern mountain girls. What our A. M. A. educational work means to Southern Highlanders was shown in the case of one of the girls, who at Berea College caught the spirit of sharing and went home to establish a school and to teach it, until through years of devoted effort her neglected community was transformed. To the other girl, without opportunity and married at 15, life was already settling into grim pathetic drudgery.

NEWS NOTES

A beautiful and impressive service of reception to new members has been worked out by the pastors of the Congregational Methodist Temple in San Francisco. Following the reading of the Church Covenant and the names of the new members, the minister extends welcome to the fellowship of the church, and then various symbols are brought forward with appropriate and helpful comments, among which are salt, light, a cross, the Holy Bible, an offering plate, and a communion cup. Sample copies of the service will be gladly sent to pastors who are interested.

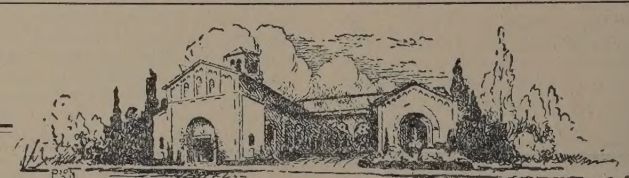
The church at Pescadero has a meeting of the Ladies' Guild and the Church school on Wednesday afternoon. On the second Sunday of each month a worship service is held by Rev. and Mrs. J. C. Kelsey of the Methodist Church at Half Moon Bay.

The Fowler Armenian Church honored ten of its members who are over 70 years of age at a party in the new social hall. The honored guests were seated with their grandchildren at the guest table. Each gave a brief biography of his life. A shower of kitchen utensils for the new social hall was given by representatives of other churches in the valley. Rev. A. A. Goergizian is the pastor.

Superintendent and Mrs. Harley H. Gill spent the first Sunday of March in Humboldt County. A visit was made to the old church property at Hydesville, which is being sold, and also on Rev. and Mrs. Roscoe Douglass at Ferndale, who are just now enjoying the happy experience of building a new home. The pulpit of the Rev. Charles H. Hudson was occupied at two services. Friends of Mr. Hudson will be glad to know that he is rapidly recovering from an operation.

Field Secretary Sherman spent two Sundays and the intervening week with the church at Paradise, setting up a very successful every-member canvass, which has thus far resulted in doubling the budget of the church.

An Indian Christian found a lost article in a theatre. After a day or two of uncomfortable feelings he took it back to the manager. Said the manager: "YOU'RE a Christian, aren't you?" "Yes," replied the man "Why?" "Because almost all the lost articles which are returned are brought back by Christians."



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Visitors Welcome at Chapels and Columbarium, daily 9 to 5